

T E R R A



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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

WILDLIFE PORTFOLIO

The Best Photographers of 1994

EIGHTY-FOUR of the best new wildlife photographs in the world are on exhibition in May and early June at the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park. The images are the 1994 winners in the annual British Gas Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition, which is organized by *BBC Wildlife* magazine and the Natural History Museum in London.

In 1994, its eleventh year, the competition attracted 12,000 entries from photographers in 50 countries and an additional 600 entries in its separate divisions for the images and portfolios of young photographers. Technical excellence in the photographs was assumed by the panel of judges, and the awards were made instead on the basis of aesthetic appeal and originality of approach. The result is a collection that not only shows the creativity and vision of individual nature photographers but also gives indication of the current directions in documentary still photography as a whole.

For another perspective on the exhibition photographs, TERRA asked several members of the curatorial staff of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to select shots related to their fields of expertise. We present here the choices and comments of Dr. Robert Bezy, Curator of Herpetology, whose research focuses on the evolution and systematics of lizards; Kimball Garrett, Ornithology Collections Manager and an expert in field identification of North American birds; Dr. John Harris, Chief Curator, who studies fossil assemblages of hippopotami, giraffes, and other ungulates of east Africa; and Dr. Gordon Hendler, Curator of Invertebrate Zoology, an authority on the natural history of sea stars, sea urchins, and other echinoderms.



Great Egrets Fighting, by Mary Ann McDonald, McClure, Pennsylvania. Winner for Animal Behavior—Birds.

Relatively abundant and cosmopolitan in distribution, the Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) is often represented in elegant and placid portraits. But here the photographer has captured an intense encounter rife with flailing necks, wings, and legs. Such conflicts, which biologists blandly term "agonistic interaction," usually pit rival males in the process of establishing nesting territories (we humans can't distinguish the sexes of Great Egrets from external features, and so the genders of these combatants remain conjectural).

Note the birds' long white plumes, or *aigrettes*; exploitation of egrets for these feathers for the millinery trade had dangerously reduced their populations by the beginning of the twentieth century, inspiring historic and ultimately successful conservation efforts.—KIMBALL GARRETT.



COVER

White Rhino, by Karl Ammann of Nanyuki, Kenya, representing Switzerland. Highly Commended for Animal Portraits—Mammals.

The stark, somber portrait of *Ceratotherium simum*, the white rhinoceros, reflects the uncertain future of a formerly widespread species. The wide lips, high-crowned teeth, and elongate head are grazing adaptations, and white rhinos dominated the African savannas during the Pliocene and Pleistocene epochs (10,000 to 5 million years ago). In historic times, however, the browsing black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) became proportionately more abundant, and white rhinos were subsequently restricted to small populations in Uganda and southern Africa. Today, both species are endangered, and their prognosis for life in the wild is highly uncertain. Fortunately white rhinos breed well in captivity and are unlikely to become totally extinct.—JOHN HARRIS.

OPPOSITE

Dinnertime in the Mara, by Fritz Polking, Greven, Germany. Runnerup for Animal Behavior—Animals Other Than Birds and Mammals.

Crocodiles are truly impressive reptiles; these armored relatives of the dinosaurs may reach 23 feet (7 meters) in length and weigh more than 2,200 pounds (1,000 kilograms). They are opportunistic carnivores whose diets include not only insects and fish but also items as large as buffaloes and humans; this Nile Crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) has taken a gazelle (*Gazella granti*).

At night crocodiles will lie submerged in shallow water with only their nostrils, ear openings, and eyes protruding above the surface. From their concealed positions, they can lunge forward with astonishing speed and are capable of vaulting more than 5 feet (1.5 meters) into the air to seize an animal that approaches the water. Once grasped, the victim has little chance of escaping the powerful jaws and sharp conical recurved teeth; it is often pulled beneath the surface and drowned. The crocodile must then rely largely upon gravity to move the meal from its jaws to its gullet; consequently, it will hold a dead animal high in the air, as seen in this remarkable photograph, to begin ingestion.—ROBERT BEZY.

Tube-sponge Spawning, by Franklin J. Viola, Roswell, Georgia. Winner for Animal Behavior—Animals Other Than Birds and Mammals.

Happily, this photograph violates my laws of underwater photography: one, that the most exciting incidents are seen by divers without cameras, and two, that a photograph—if taken—never does justice to the experience. This exceptional image captures the marine invertebrate "smoking" behavior occasionally reported by divers and also gives us a closeup view of the smoke—the millions of gametes released in spawning. Here, a single female tube-sponge puffs forth a multitude of pinpoint-sized, golden eggs bound together in sheets of mucus.

I have seen smoking sponges while diving on Caribbean reefs (of course, I have no picture to prove it!), and they have usually been solitary individuals. However, some sponges and other reef dwellers spawn en masse, in predictable events that are correlated with the lunar cycle. Why the invertebrate orgy? The simultaneous mass release of eggs and sperm by members of a population helps to ensure that fertilization and outbreeding will occur. Naturally, an outpouring of microscopic sushi attracts party crashers, but synchronous spawning probably serves to satiate crowds of freeloaders while still allowing some eggs and embryos to survive.

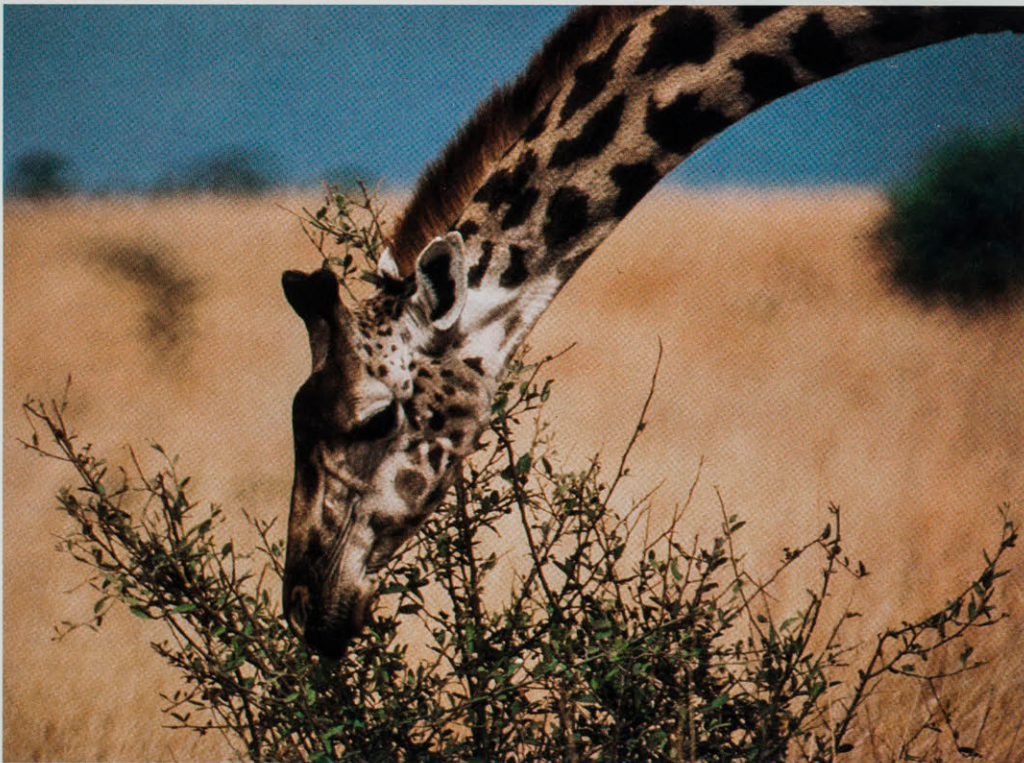
One might ask how a sponge that filters its own body volume of water every 5 seconds keeps from devouring its own offspring? And how such a brainless blob coordinates spawning with its neighbors? Or how its gametes come to be arrayed in elegant streamlines? The answers could easily disprove the adage that a picture is worth merely a thousand words.—GORDON HENDLER.



Giraffe, by Louise Dean, Weybridge, England. Winner, Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 1994 (aged 15).

In quintessential paradox a young female Masai giraffe, with elongate limbs and neck for feeding from tall *Acacia* canopy, is captured in this photograph nibbling on a low-growing *Cadaba* shrub. Giraffes are browsers, subsisting largely on the nutritious leaves of *Acacia* trees, which they strip with the aid of long muscular tongues. Because *Acacia* leaves are very soft, giraffe teeth are proportionately very small.

Although only one giraffe species is recognized (*Giraffa camelopardalis*), several subspecies have been distinguished by differences in coat pattern and in degree of development of the "horns" (which are covered by skin throughout life and are known as ossicones). These ungulates are now restricted to sub-Saharan Africa, but their fossil relatives have been recovered from north Africa and Eurasia.—JOHN HARRIS.



SETTLING DOWN

FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS, the big questions about human history and prehistory concern the development of what we think of as civilization. How, when, and why did people settle down, domesticate plants and animals, develop hierarchical political organizations, and begin living in cities? We know that major technological, social, and political transitions occurred and recurred as sedentary life first developed. These transitions took place in many different parts of the world, under differing environmental, economic, and social conditions, and among groups that had no contact with one another.

I study the economic and social changes that occurred among people living along the coast of Peru from 10,000

to 3,000 years ago. I am most interested in discovering when and why these people first abandoned a life of transhumance—of moving from place to place to harvest resources available seasonally—and instead settled in permanent or semipermanent villages. I also study the beginnings of their horticulture, particularly the appearance of domesticated cotton, and I look for signs of specialization and intensification of their fishing industry.

Research on the origins of settled village life along Peru's coastline is particularly interesting because the sequence of events there is different from that seen elsewhere. In many other parts of the world, agriculture is very important in supporting a sedentary lifestyle, and this led earlier archaeologists to conclude that farming was necessary to early civilization. On the coast of Peru, however, as along the Northwest coast of North America and in a few other places, it appears that early village life was based on a fishing industry rather than on farming. Archaeologists are now looking more closely at the history of settlements in these places and have, as a consequence, changed their ideas about the factors underlying the development of civilization.



By excavating the houses, middens (garbage dumps), and cemeteries of early residents of the south coast of Peru, I can study their diet, technology, economy, and even household organization. This kind of research, which can reveal the causes and consequences of settling down (and of other big changes in the way people lived in the past), is contributing to our understanding of the origins of civilization, both in Peru and elsewhere.

KAREN WISE
Assistant Curator,
Anthropology

LEFT

Adán Umire, an archaeologist from the Catholic University in Arequipa, Peru, and Sarah Robinson, a physical anthropologist from Cambridge University in England, retrieve human remains more than 4,500 years old from the Kilometer 4 site on the desert coast at Ilo, Peru, in August 1994. Photograph by Karen Wise.

Excavation of this multiple burial site took more than 5 weeks because of the need to compile careful documentation, including photographs, diagrams, measurements, and written descriptions of every fragment of bone and associated artifact. Members of the research team, who come from Peru, the U.S., and other countries, contribute expertise on a variety of topics, such as the origins of ancient stone tools, the identification of prehistoric plants and animals, and the history of textiles.

TOP

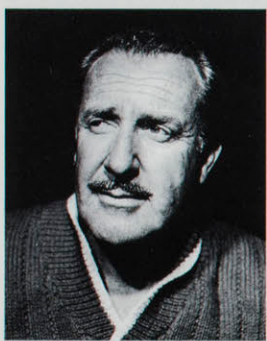
A 3,500-year-old twined cotton loincloth, an exciting find from the Kilometer 4 site. Photograph by Karen Wise.

Textiles that are similar to this cotton piece but constructed with fibers from wild plants, such as reeds, are found on the coasts of Chile and Peru at sites up to 9,000 years old. Cotton was first cultivated between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago, and people soon began using it rather than the wild fibers for finer textiles and for fishing nets.

THE GEORGE BARROWS GORILLA SUIT

BEHIND EVERY OBJECT in the history collections of the Natural History Museum is an intriguing story, and the George Barrows gorilla suit, acquired in late 1993 from its owner and creator, is no exception.

George Barrows was born to a theatrical family and entered show business himself as a “barge boy” for Claudette Colbert in the movie *Cleopatra* (1934). He was working in bit parts for \$75 per week when a friend told him that he could earn \$200 a day dressed as a gorilla. The only catch was that he would have to provide his own costume.



With the additional income as an incentive, Barrows began visiting museums and zoos, making sketches and taking photographs of gorillas and noting their habits and movements. Then he began to construct a costume, modeling the gorilla's face in clay over a plaster cast he had made of his own head and face. When completed, the complicated head included a fully articulated mouth and face that allowed Barrows to display expressions that a real gorilla would make. The body was constructed of a lightweight padding of cloth covered with human hair as well as yak hair imported from Tibet; the black and white colors of the coat blended into a photogenic shade of gray suitable for black and white film.

Barrows christened his creation N'gi (Swahili for “Wild Man of the Forest”) and, after World War II, climbed inside and began a long career swinging from studio to studio, appearing in movies such as *Gorilla at Large* (1954) and, on television, in episodes of “The Addams Family,” “Gilligan’s Island,” and “McMillan and Wife.”



The General Americana specialists of the Natural History Museum are especially pleased to have acquired N'gi following Barrows' retirement because the costume complements other simian artifacts, from the movies *King Kong* and *Planet of the Apes*, already in the collections.

BETH WERLING
General Americana
Collections Manager

Anne Bancroft and George Barrows in a still from *Gorilla at Large* (1954), a murder mystery set in an amusement park. At left, George D. Barrows (1914-1994). Photographs from the Seaver Center for Western History Research, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Portrait courtesy Jane Jewell Barrows.

Filmed in 3-D and color, *Gorilla at Large* sported an exceptional cast, including Cameron Mitchell, Lee J. Cobb, Raymond Burr, and Lee Marvin.

CUSTOMIZING COMES OF AGE

The Work of Boyd Coddington

SINCE THE BEGINNING of the automotive age, southern California seems to have had more than its share of unusual automobiles. New wealth, the influences of the entertainment and aerospace industries, superb driving weather—all have contributed to our leadership in the individualized approach to the car. In the last two decades, the region's reputation as the capital of automobile customizing has grown through the work of fabricator Boyd Coddington, who both perpetuates and transcends the best traditions of hot rodding.

Coddington's innovation—the combination of handcraftmanship and streamlining with high-tech engineering—has made him a powerful force in the current revival of the all-American hot rod. Each of his sleek vehicles is faithfully reminiscent of a classic, yet

somehow truer to the designer's ideal of the early car than was the original. His nostalgic creations suggest power and speed even at rest; but they are solid street machines that are suitable for the daily commute or a cross-country drive.

Several spectacular automobiles made at Hot Rods by Boyd in Stanton, California, are on display through July in the second floor Meyer Gallery of the Petersen Automotive Museum, along with drawings and equipment that demonstrate facets of the design and fabrication process. Included in the exhibit is one of Coddington's earliest products, the 1933 Ford Hi-boy Roadster he built for Jamie B. Musselman in 1981. This perfectly styled car is a mosaic of hand-fabricated or heavily modified components and luxurious features. Judged America's Most Beautiful Roadster for 1982 at the main hot rod event of the

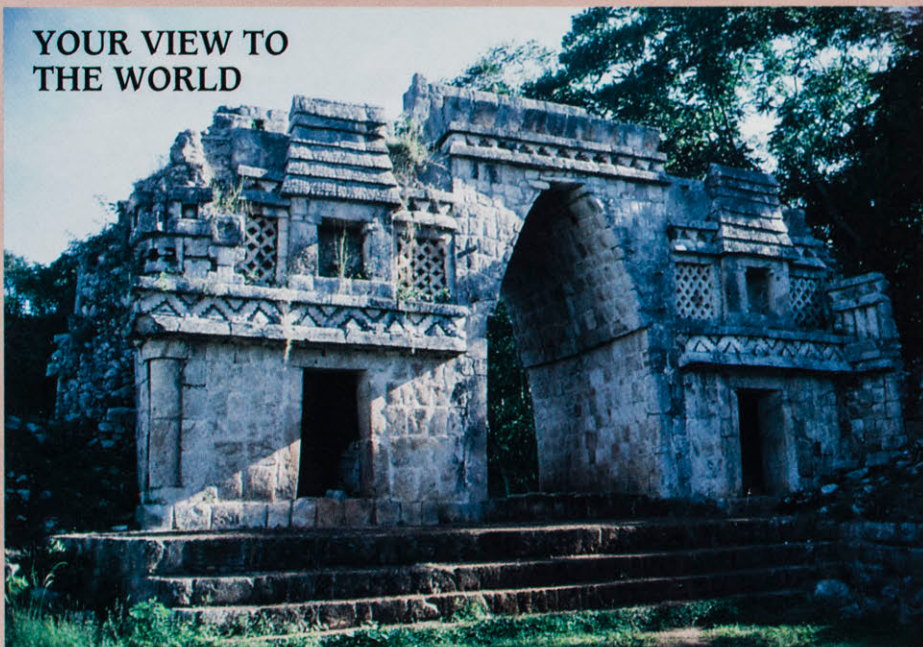
year, the Oakland Roadster Show, it is thought by many to have raised the standards by which all future hot rods would be judged.

The 1992 Aluma Coupe, designed by Larry Erickson and engineered and built by Boyd Coddington. Collection of David Sydorick. Photograph No. 29023, Corel Professional Photos CD-ROM, Corel Corporation, Ottawa, Ontario.

This neoclassic 300-horsepower street rod is powered by a turbocharged twin-cam 2.0-liter Mitsubishi Eclipse engine mounted amidship and driving the rear wheels through a four-speed automatic Eclipse transaxle. The 2,200-pound (1,000-kilogram) tube-frame coupe has an independent suspension system and spindles, halfshafts, and hub carriers hand-fabricated from aluminum billet. Its custom features include a leather interior, a keyless entry system, and a rear license plate that retracts from view when the vehicle is parked. To demonstrate its street worthiness, the Aluma—which required over 7,000 man-hours to complete—was driven from Los Angeles to Indianapolis for the Good Guys Hot Rod Run of 1992.



YOUR VIEW TO THE WORLD



Photographs: Yucatan, Mexico. Eric Hovanitz

KENYA SAFARI

July 17 to 30, 1995

Join the museum's expert birder, Kimball Garrett, on this luxury safari into the heart of East Africa. You'll stay at Sweetwaters Tented Camp, photographing elephant, giraffe, buffalo, oryx, zebra, and leopard. In the Masai Mara Game Reserve, you will witness the migration of tremendous herds of wildebeest. The Samburu Game Reserve is famed for its birds, as is Lake Nakuru, with its shores lined with pink flamingos.

\$3,845 including airfare

MALAYSIA AND BORNEO

September 9 to 22, 1995

Visit enchanting Malaysia and Borneo, a naturalist's paradise. Tour the Orchid Garden and Bird Park of Kuala Lumpur. Explore Kinabalu Park, with its fascinating flowers and beautiful birds. You'll visit the orangutans at the Sepilok Center and Turtle Island Park in Palau Selingaan. You will also spend a night in a longhouse on Borneo, getting to know the people and their customs.

\$3,495 including airfare

ASIAN ECLIPSE CRUISE

October 12 to 28, 1995

Witness one of nature's most spectacular phenomena, a total solar eclipse, while participating in an extraordinary land and sea journey along the exotic shores of the south China Sea. Sail aboard the highly regarded cruise ship *Marco Polo*, in the company of expert astronomers and geologist Dr. James L. Powell, President and Director of the Natural History Museum. Dock in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam; and Kota Kinabalu, Borneo. Museum travelers will enjoy custom designed pre- and post-cruise programs in Hong Kong and Singapore.

From \$4,455 including airfare

PATAGONIAN ANDES

November 18 to December 2, 1995

Tour the Patagonian Andes of Chile and Argentina on this spectacular journey. A highlight will be Torres del Paine National Park, with its windswept pampas, towering mountains, and sweeping ice fields. You will visit the famous

Milodon Cave, which was occupied by giant sloths during the last Ice Age, and enjoy watching penguins play along the shoreline of the Straits of Magellan.

\$4,190 plus airfare

YUCATAN

November 25 to December 8, 1995

Maya archaeologist Dr. Richard D. Hansen will lead museum travelers on a fascinating journey through Mexico's beautiful Yucatan peninsula on this enlightening study tour. You will explore Dzibilchaltun, Uxmal, Chichen Itza, Coba, and Palenque, among many others. Each site has been carefully chosen to reveal a different facet of the history, religion, and art of the ancient Maya and Olmec civilizations.

\$2,870 plus airfare

FOR MORE INFORMATION

please contact
Karen Hovanitz
Museum Travel Program
(213) 744-3350.

EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Benefit Exhibition and Sale

■ SHONA

Spirits in Stone

Through May 14, Dart Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Steeped in the legends and traditions of an ancient African culture, Shona stone sculpture captures the spirit of the southeastern African home of its creators while express-



Shona sculptor Edronce Rukodzi with *My Good Family*, 1991. Chiweshe serpentine. Photograph by Anthony Ponter.

Rukodzi is in Los Angeles through May 14 for the benefit sale and exhibition Shona: Spirits in Stone.

ing human connections that transcend geography and time.

This exhibition and sale of more than 1,800 pieces features the work of emerging talents as well as master sculptors who were responsible for the renaissance of Shona sculpture 30 years ago. A portion of the proceeds from the sale benefits the educational programs and exhibitions of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

■ OUR WEAKENING WEB

The Story of Extinction

June 3 through August 27, Dart Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Visitors can explore over 500 million years of natural history in this fascinating new exhibit. Life-size scenes, interactive dis-



plays, and electronic games demonstrate that extinction is a natural process that has been occurring since the beginning of life on Earth. The exhibit emphasizes changes that people can make now to help preserve biodiversity and to decrease our impact on the environment.

■ CUSTOMIZING COMES OF AGE

The Work of Boyd Coddington

Through July 23, Meyer Gallery, Petersen Automotive Museum

Boyd Coddington is a leading force in the manufacture of custom cars and hot rods and the creator of such distinctive vehicles as CadZZilla, the radically modified 1948 Cadillac owned by the rock band ZZ Top. This exhibition of Coddington automobiles includes a customized version of the rare 1933 Ford C400 convertible and several vehicles that have won top prize in the Academy Awards of hot rodding, the annual Roadster Show in Oakland.

Also on view in the Petersen Museum's second floor galleries:

■ **State of the Art, 1905–1910**, through January 20, 1996, focuses on cars from the "Brass Era" and features several classics from the museum's own collections, including a 1908 Pierce Great Arrow, a 1909 White steamer, and a 1909 Ford Model T.

■ **American Classics of the 1930s**, through November 12, 1995, celebrates the styling and grandeur of luxury cars such as the Duesenberg, Pierce-Arrow, Cadillac, and Lincoln.

■ SHADOWBIRDS

Photographs by William Burt

May 6 through August 6, Director's Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Rails are tiny, enigmatic birds that live their lives in dense marshes, silently threading their way through mazes of stems and stalks and branches. In his 20-year quest for glimpses of these elusive birds, nature photographer William Burt has crept through the marshlands of Maryland, North Dakota, and Manitoba, usually in

the middle of the night, enduring swarms of insects as well as occasional, sometimes harrowing encounters with other people. The result is *Shadowbirds*, an exhibition of intriguing and remarkably beautiful photographs of a relatively unknown and rapidly disappearing wetland environment and its inhabitants.

■ WILDLIFE PORTFOLIO

1994 British Gas Wildlife Photographer of the Year

May 7 through June 17, First Floor Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Winning and commended images from the most prestigious international nature photography competition of the year are on display for a brief period at the Exposition Park Museum. The exhibition features large prints of the eighty-four award-winning pictures of animals and plants as well as a projected display of sixty-five additional highly commended photographs. The portfolio provides dramatic and sometimes humorous glimpses of life in the wild and exuberant evidence of the sheer beauty of nature.

■ LOST AND FOUND TRADITIONS

Native American Art, 1965–1985

Through June 4, Burbank Museum

The Lost and Found Traditions collection of contemporary Native American art demonstrates the vitality of artistic traditions in nearly every major Native American cultural group. The collection of woodwork, beadwork, basketry, and weaving was compiled by Ralph T. Coe, a renowned scholar of Native American art, to show the artistic continuity that exists between past traditions and present interpretations.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, which was chosen as the permanent home for the collection in 1992, is proud to present an exhibition of more than 100 of these splendid and diverse artworks. Objects were selected for display by the museum's Curator of Anthropology, Dr. Margaret Hardin, who has provided interpretive remarks on a number of the works.

■ GYOTAKU by Cherry Sweig

Through June 18, Ground Floor Hall Galleries, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Samurai-era game fishermen developed gyotaku in the early 1800s, before the invention of the camera, to record the size and shape of a prize fish. Japanese fish impression soon become a highly prized art form.

The gyotaku by San Diego artist Cherry Sweig are created using fish from California, Hawaii, Mexico, the British West Indies, and other parts of the world. Sweig applies water-soluble colors to the surface of a fish; she then covers and rubs the fish with rice paper to record the intricate patterns of each scale and fin. The print is completed by painting the eyes in the style of gyotaku artists and is signed in the traditional Oriental manner, using a chop, or seal.

Mudhead kachina, by Henry Shelton, Hopi, 1968. Cottonwood, paint, feathers. 14.5 inches (37 centimeters) high. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County F.A. 3287.93. Photograph by Bobby Hansson, No. 316, Anthropology Section Collection.

This fine carving is one of more than 100 works in the exhibition *Lost and Found Traditions, 1965–1985*, at Burbank Museum through June 4.



PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS

LECTURES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Booksigning

■ SPIRITS IN STONE

Zimbabwe Shona Sculpture

Saturdays, May 6 and 13, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Dart Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Anthony and Laura Ponter, curators of the Shona sculpture exhibition, will be on hand each Saturday morning to talk informally with visitors about the sculptures and to sign copies of *Spirits in Stone: Zimbabwe Shona Sculpture* (Ukama Press, 1992). Books may be purchased in the museum's Gallery Store.

■ ZIMBABWE: A HISTORY

Sunday, May 7, 2 p.m., Times Mirror Conference Room, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

In conjunction with the benefit sale and exhibition, *Shona: Spirits in Stone*, **Dr. James Kamusikiri**, a noted African historian at CSU Pomona, looks at Zimbabwe history with a focus on the Shona and their place in the country's past and contemporary culture. Dr. Kamusikiri reveals the rich mythology underlying Shona sculpture and places it in a long tradition of stone carving. He defines its value, both in the lives of the carvers and in the western art market. \$7 members, \$9 nonmembers, \$5 students.

Mother's Day Celebration

■ CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT AND TEA

Sunday, May 14, 4:30 p.m., William S. Hart Museum

The **Santa Clarita Chamber Players** present a concert celebrating Mother's Day in the living room of the historic Hart Museum. English tea with scones make this a delicious event to share with your mom. Call the Hart Museum at 805/254-4584 to make your reservations. Seating is limited to the first 50; cost is \$25 per person.

■ THE NINTH ANNUAL INSECT FAIR

Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

The Insect Fair, the largest event of its kind in North America, features exhibits of living and preserved insects, demonstrations on how to make an insect collection, and displays about controlling household and garden pests. As many as 50 U.S. and European exhibitors participate, and insect specimens, natural history books, and arts and crafts are sold and exchanged. The Insect Fair is presented by the Ralph M. Parsons Insect Zoo of the Natural History Museum and is free with Arboretum admission. For more information please call 213/744-3558.

■ PORTRAIT MUMMIES

Views of Women's Roles in Roman Egypt

Sunday, May 21, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Entombed in Egypt were portrait mummies and grave goods that encode the story of women in Roman Egypt. **Dr. Lorelei H. Corcoran**, Assistant Director of the Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, University of Memphis, Tennessee, explores and extrapolates from the iconography of the portrait mummies and their lavishly decorated mummy cases to produce a fascinating account of the lives of well-to-do women in Roman Egypt. This lecture is cosponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt, Southern California Chapter. \$10 museum and ARCE members, \$15 nonmembers, \$5 students.

Charlie Russell Days

Friday to Sunday, June 2 to 4, William S. Hart Museum and Park.

Hart Museum and Park presents a weekend of festivities centering around the life and work of American artist and sculptor **Charles Marion Russell** (1864-1926); please call 805/254-4584 for information, reservations, and tickets.



The Buffalo Hunt, by Charles M. Russell, 1894. Oil on canvas, 60 by 80 inches (1.5 by 2 meters). Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County A.7211.58-1948, William S. Hart Collection H-100. Hart Museum and Park celebrate Charlie Russell Days from June 2 to 4.

Friday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.

■ A RUSSELL ROUNDUP

Join us for a showing of the documentary film, *C.M. Russell, His Personal West*, and a tour of Hart Museum's Russell collection with western art collector **Robert C. Chipperfield**. A recently discovered Russell painting will be exhibited that evening for the first time by **Charles Aaron**, cofounder of Valley Molding and Frame Company. A wine and cheese reception is included; reservations are a must! \$15 per person; \$25 for two.

Saturday, June 3, 6 p.m.

■ A COWBOY CAMPFIRE

A Western Barbeque with Tales of the Old West

Slide back in time 100 years to experience western frontier life as living history through the memories of Charlie Russell, as portrayed by **Raphael Christy**. Great grub and western music top off the evening spent outdoors around a cowboy campfire. \$40 per person, \$75 per couple.

Sunday, June 4, 12 noon (ages 6 to 8) and 2 p.m. (ages 8 to 11)

■ GET THE LEAD OUT

Western Art Classes for Children

Learn to pencil-sketch the West, Charlie Russell style, from professional artist **Brent Hudspeth**. A horse, a cowboy, and other western subjects spur you on to create an original artwork. Fee includes materials. \$5 members, \$7.50 nonmembers.

ADULT CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Attention Automobile Enthusiasts!

■ MISS INFORMATION SERIES

Tuesdays, May 16 and June 20, 7 p.m., Classroom, Petersen Automotive Museum

On the third Tuesday of each month, the Petersen Museum hosts a program designed to bring automobile buffs together in an informal but informative atmosphere. Cosponsored by *Miss Information*, a calendar of automotive events, each meeting features a seminar by an expert in mechanics or automotive care. Reservations are not required; please call 213/964-6356 for information. \$15 per person, including parking and museum admission.

■ WILD GRASS BASKETS

Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spend a relaxing day weaving in a quiet canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains. We gather wild grasses and weeds and learn to coil these into a charming summer bas-

ket. Pack a picnic lunch and meet at the site. **Judy Mulford**, basketry artist and educator, is our instructor. All experience levels welcome. \$45 members, \$55 nonmembers.

■ GOING, GOING . . . GONE?

The Biology of Extinction and Endangerment

Saturday, July 8, 1 to 5 p.m., Times Mirror Conference Room, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Why do some species become endangered or extinct? And how does the accelerating loss of species affect our world and the world our children will inherit? Through this program, presented in conjunction with the exhibit *Our Weakening Web: The Story of Extinction*, you'll learn more about extinction as both a natural evolutionary process and a tragic consequence of our mounting impact on our environment. The panel participants are Natural History Museum staff members **Dr. John Heyning**, Curator of Mammalogy, and

Kimball Garrett, Ornithology Collections Manager, and **Dr. Robert Allen**, Research Associate in Entomology, and **Dr. Blaire Van Valkenburgh**, Professor of Biology at UCLA. \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers.

Gyotaku Workshop

■ REFLECTIONS OF THE SEA

Saturday, May 20, 1 to 4 p.m., Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Explore the traditional Japanese art of gyotaku with San Diego artist **Cherry Sweig**. Step-by-step instructions in preparation of the fish, hand printing, and eye painting allow students to practice techniques. Final prints are made on rice paper, with students signing their work in the traditional Oriental manner. \$40 members, \$50 nonmembers.

■ DON'T BE FOOLED

Information about Car Repairs

Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Classroom, Petersen Automotive Museum

Learn to communicate with your mechanic. **Phillip Mitchell**, Petersen Museum Collections Manager, gives an overview of the way cars tick (or clunk or bang!) and explains how to avoid being tricked when ordering repairs. Participants should bring their car owner's manual; Mr. Mitchell will spend time with each person, answering specific questions. Following the program, participants will take a "mechanic's tour" of the Petersen Museum. Free to members, \$10 nonmembers; reservations required.

FIELD TRIPS

■ THE UPS AND DOWNS OF LOS ANGELES

Exploring Los Angeles's Outdoor Stairways

Saturday, June 10, 8 to 11 a.m.

Larry Gordon, coauthor of *Stairway Walks in Los Angeles* (Wilderness Press, 1990), leads us through the Beachwood Canyon neighborhood in search of stair-

■ A KING'S RANSOM

Ancient Egyptian Jewelry

Saturday, July 29, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,

Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

This slide-illustrated program provides an opulent feast for the eyes as we explore the history of Egyptian jewelry, its manufacture, symbolism, and function. Presenting their most current research on this glamorous subject are two of the world's finest Egyptologists, **Carol Andrews** and **Dr. Robert Steven Bianchi**.

Andrews, Assistant Keeper and Senior Research Assistant in the British Museum's Department of Egyptian Antiquities, will talk on "The Labor of the Craftsmen: Jewelry Forms and Manufacture" and "Adorning the Mummy: Funerary Jewelry and Amu-



lets." She is author of books on ancient Egyptian jewelry and amulets.

Dr. Bianchi, one of two Americans elected to the International Association of Egyptologists and a contributing editor to *Archaeology*, will speak on "Precious Commodities: Materials and Their Symbolic Meanings" and "The Decorative Art of Self Adornment: Jewelry Designs and Meanings."

This exciting program is cosponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt, Southern California Chapter. \$35 Natural History Museum and ARCE members, \$45 nonmembers, \$20 students; lunch not included.

Gold pectoral, 12th Dynasty, ca. 1830 B.C. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rogers Fund and Henry Walters Gift, 1916. 16.1.3. Height 1 3/4 inches (4.5 centimeters).

PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS CONTINUED

ways in the shadow of the Hollywood sign. Along the way, he provides bits of urban history and Hollywood lore. We start at 8 a.m. with an informal breakfast at the Beachwood Village Cafe. Most of the trip is an easy walk, but some stairways are steep and long. \$15 members, \$20 non-members, not including breakfast.

■ THE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

Birding Field Trip to the
San Gabriel Mountains

Saturday, June 17, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Join us and contribute to the Los Angeles County Breeding Bird Atlas by locating the breeding sites of some of the nearly 200 bird species that nest in the county. We explore one of the atlas's 414 survey areas, searching for breeding activities, from territorial behavior and nest building to care and feeding of young. Ornithology Collections Manager **Kimball Garrett** and Breeding Bird Atlas Coordinator **Mark Wimer** point out these behaviors and put them into the perspective of the entire Atlas project.

Bring water and a picnic lunch, and anticipate up to 4 miles of easy walking on roads and good trails. \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers.

■ SOMEWHERE IN TIME

Tours of the Victorian Piru Mansion
Sunday, June 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The town of Piru in Ventura County contains an exceptional jewel—the Piru Man-



sion. This Victorian classic in the Queen Anne style features turrets, stone work, and some 30 stained-glass windows and is set in several acres of gardens. First built between 1886 and 1890, the house was destroyed by fire in 1981 but rebuilt by the present owners to its original design and furnished in Victorian splendor.

Docent-led tours of the house will take place throughout the day, and visitors are invited to bring lunches and picnic on the grounds. Tickets must be purchased in advance. \$7.50 members, \$10 nonmembers.

■ INTO THE SUMMER'S NIGHT

An Evening Hike

Saturday, July 29, 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Join naturalist **Peter Rice** for an evening hike in the Santa Monica Mountains. Explore the varied mountain terrain, sample edible plants, and learn tips for safe hiking.

Tours of the Piru Mansion are the highlight of the Somewhere in Time field trip. Photograph courtesy Ruth Newhall.

FAMILY FUNDAYS!

These hands-on family programs are **free** with museum admission for children ages 4 to 13. They are held in the Discovery Centers of the Exposition Park and Burbank museums.

■ INSECT AFFAIR

Saturday, May 13, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Enter the world of arthropods with Insect Zoo Director **Dr. Art Evans**. Examine these interesting creatures and learn about the role they play in our ecosystem. Then construct and mount an original bug to take home!

■ GYOTAKU WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 20, 1:30 to 3 p.m.,
Burbank Museum

Join Museum Educator **Brianna Cutts** as she demonstrates the ancient Japanese tradition of gyotaku, or fish printing. Children work with real fish and make their own print to take home.

■ GYOTAKU DEMONSTRATION

Saturday, June 3, 1:30 to 3 p.m.,

Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Come meet artist **Cherry Sweig**, whose work is on display in the museum's Ground Floor Hall Galleries, and see her practice the Japanese art of gyotaku by painting real fish and making paper prints of them.

■ THE SEARCH IS ON!

Saturday, June 10, 1:30 to 3 p.m.,
Burbank Museum

Why are some animals camouflaged while others are brightly colored? Discover the answers when **Wildlife on Wheels** visits the Discovery Center with live wild animals.

After sunset, study the summer constellations and Milky Way and hear stories of the Chumash Indians. The hiking is easy to moderately difficult, with a 400-foot elevation gain. \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ LIONS AND TIGERS AND MAMMOTHS, OH MY!

A Family Day at the Page Museum

Saturday, June 3, noon to 4 p.m.

Join us for a special family day at the George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries. Enjoy a variety of activities, including creating wearable masks of mammoths and saber-toothed cats, casting fossils, and participating in a museum scavenger hunt. See our new animated display of a saber-toothed cat attacking a giant ground sloth, and take special tours of other museum exhibits. Free to members; free to nonmembers with museum admission.

Nestlings of the Western Bluebird
(*Sialia mexicana*) may be seen on the
Breeding Bird Atlas field trip.
Photograph by Kimball Garrett.



■ FOURTH ANNUAL ANIMAL FAIR

Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
William S. Hart Museum and Park

Come to Hart Park for a day of family fun! Enjoy the petting zoo, animal acts, educational exhibits, and entertainment. And take a free tour of historic Hart Museum. Admission and parking are free, and fees for food and activities are small (the proceeds benefit the barnyard animals at Hart Park).

■ KIDS' DECO-CAR DAY

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
Petersen Automotive Museum

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to paint and decorate an automobile in the Petersen's parking lot. Using imagination as well as paint and strange objects, the artists create a one-of-a-kind artwork on wheels.

Jim Hatch, Exhibits Designer and Illustrator at the Petersen, facilitates the creative process by offering glue and guidance. The finished Deco-Car will be featured in the L.A. Auto-tude exhibit on the Petersen Museum's First Floor. \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers; reservations required.

■ ADVENTURES IN NATURE 1995

July 17 to 21, July 24 to 28, or July 31 to August 4, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Children from 3 to 14 years of age learn about nature firsthand in exciting participatory sessions with outstanding instructors. The week-long courses, which may be taken in mornings or afternoons, offer opportunities to visit the curatorial laboratories, work with natural history specimens, and make craft items to take home. While children are in class, adults may enjoy free museum programs.

Classes, which are limited to 20 students each, run Monday through Friday, mornings (10 a.m. to noon) or afternoons (1 to 3 p.m.). Program costs are \$70 per class for members, \$80 per class for nonmembers. Members receive additional discounts when enrolling two or more siblings.

An Adventures in Nature brochure will be sent to all members at the beginning of May. If you need additional information, please call 213/744-3534.

MEMBERS' LOAN SERVICE

Bring the museum into your home or classroom! The Members' Loan Service, located at the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park, has science specimens, historical objects and models, and cultural artifacts available for loan. For a \$5 fee, three items may be borrowed for a 2-week period. Open hours: Thursdays, 2 to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS RESERVATION FORM

By telephone: Use your MasterCard or VISA. Call the Education Division at 213/744-3534, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Credit cards are accepted only with a minimum charge of \$20.

By mail: Complete the form below, fill in the charge information or enclose a check payable to Museum Foundation, and return your order form and payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The form may be duplicated. Mail to: **Education Division, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007**

Important: Reservation, Waiting List and Refund Policies. Preregistration is required for all classes, workshops, and field trips and is recommended for all other Education Division programs. Tickets to auditorium events may be purchased at the door; seating is not reserved. Reservations are not necessary for Family Fundays.

Applicants for filled programs will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if vacancies or rescheduling occur. If you have paid for a filled program, your payment will be refunded in 4-6 weeks.

Cancellations must be made one week prior to the first day of the event for the registrant to be eligible for a refund. Only if we are able to fill your space will the fee be refunded.

Dates and times of programs are subject to change, and class sizes are limited. Please call 213/744-3534 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to verify program dates, times, and availability.

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MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

■ NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Dr. James L. Powell, President and Director of the Natural History Museum, is pleased to announce the appointment of James R. Gilson as Vice President for Governmental Affairs and General Counsel.

Gilson has a B.A. from Wesleyan University, an M.A. in urban studies from Occidental College, and a law degree from Washington University, where he was honored by selection to the Order of the Coif. He has provided legal counsel to a number of corporations and government agencies and has for the past several years served the museum as a partner at the law firm of Tuttle & Taylor.

Gilson's extensive experience in the southern California community will be valuable in his new position, where he will be the chief legal officer of the Natural History Museum's foundation as well as liaison with the museum's many partners among other governmental agencies and institutions.

■ THE PARROT PROJECT

Kimball L. Garrett, Ornithology Collections Manager, is maintaining a database on the status and distribution of the feral (free-flying, but non-native) parrots and parakeets of southern California. At least eight species appear to be present locally in sizeable populations (see *TERRA* 24(5): 5-11, 1986). Data gathered in the Parrot Project should prove valuable in assessing the potential effects of these birds on our native species and will also serve to alert agricultural officials to possible impacts on local cash crops. Birders who sight "wild" parrots in southern California should contact Garrett for data reporting forms; please write to him at the Natural History Museum or call him at 213/744-3368.

■ LOCAL ATLAS TO BREEDING BIRDS

The Natural History Museum's Ornithology offices are headquarters for the Los Angeles County Breeding Bird Atlas, an ambitious effort to map the distributions of the 180 to 200 bird species



Red-crowned Parrot (*Amazona viridigenalis*), a native of Mexico and one of the subjects of "The Parrot Project."
Photograph by Herbert Clarke.

that nest within the county. The atlas, which has been funded by the Los Angeles Audubon Society, will involve surveys by volunteer birdwatchers of 414 areas, each covering about 10 square miles. The resulting information on the distribution, habitat requirements, and population sizes of various species will be an invaluable resource in making land use decisions and mounting conservation efforts that affect our avifauna. For more information, please call the Project Coordinator Mark Wimer in "Atlas Central" at 213/745-BIRD, or sign up for the Education Division's Breeding Bird Atlas field trip described on page 12.

■ A DAY OF SUNSHINE

This summer, the Natural History Museum again brings more than 300 homeless children, ranging in age from 6 to 14 years, to the George C. Page Museum to enjoy a day of activities. The "Day of Sunshine" program was established in 1991 to provide these children with educational experiences beyond the realms of their daily lives in missions, shelters, and hotels. Their journey back to the Ice Age era of saber-toothed cats, dire wolves, and mammoths includes tours of the museum and adjacent asphalt pits, an exploration of the research laboratory, and craft activities. At the end of the day, the children leave with full stomachs, donated items to take back to their families, and the knowledge that they are always welcome at the museum. Contributions for this program will be gratefully received by the Natural History Museum's Education Division; for further information, please call Joan Grasty at 213/744-3533.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

■ THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Natural History Museum, the Membership Office extends its heartfelt thanks to all museum members who responded to our year-end appeal. Your generosity allows us not only to continue but to expand the outstanding education and exhibition programming that we offer to hundreds of thousands of people throughout southern California.

■ SPRING MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

We are pleased to have completed our first "member get a member" campaign. Because the Natural History Museum has placed great emphasis on raising funds through its Membership Program this year, we asked our strongest advocates—our members—to help increase their ranks.

Letters inviting each member to enroll friends and colleagues as members in the Natural History Museum were mailed in mid-February, and all who responded received two additional months of membership for each new member that they recruited. Selected participants also received "Dino Dollars" redeemable for purchases at the museum gift shops. Grand prizes were awarded to the three people signing on the most new members during the campaign (winners will be announced in the next issue of *TERRA*).

"We are delighted with the outcome of the campaign," said Membership Director Ann Miller, "and we look forward to making it an annual event."

■ JOIN THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM!

Sales of memberships to museum visitors have become an important part of the Membership recruitment program, and the volunteers who sign on new members as they enter the museums are essential to the program's continued growth. Our thanks to all of the museum volunteers who have in the past year increased our membership rolls by sharing their excitement about the museum with visitors.

Ron Villanueva, the Natural History Museum's On-site Membership Sales Coordinator, is searching for motivated and enthusiastic volunteers to staff the admission

and information desks and sell memberships at the Exposition Park, Petersen, Page, and Burbank museums. If you would like to join the volunteer sales team, please call Ron at 213/744-3426.

■ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND

The five museums that make up the Natural History Museum offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities at a range of locations around Los Angeles County. Prospective volunteers can be trained to be docents, curatorial helpers, or service council members or to work in outreach programs. If you are fascinated by the world of history or the natural sciences, the Natural History Museum family welcomes you. Please call the following numbers for further information:



Volunteers Carol Kramer (top left), Pat Clayberger, and Fred Wagner help assemble a dinosaur skeleton. Photograph by Dick Meier.

- NEWHALL, the William S. Hart Museum: Carol Sandmeier, 805/254-4584.
- BURBANK, Museum of Natural History: Linda Abraham, 818/557-3557.
- MIRACLE MILE, the George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries: Denny Diveley (touring docents), 213/857-6305. Shelley Cox (laboratory volunteers), 213/857-6318.
- MIRACLE MILE, the Petersen Automotive Museum: Linda Murray, 213/964-6347.
- EXPOSITION PARK, Museum of Natural History: Isabel Rosenbaum, 213/744-3341.

Membership in the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

provides free admission to all of its FIVE museums, including the Museums of Natural History in Exposition Park and at the Media City Center in Burbank, the Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries, the William S. Hart Museum in Newhall, AND the Petersen Automotive Museum. In addition, you will receive year-round discounts in all of the Museum Gift Shops; a year's subscription to *TERRA*; exclusive travel opportunities; reduced fees for classes and lectures for children and adults; and invitations to members-only events.

JOIN FIVE MUSEUMS IN ONE!

Your Name(s) _____
(please print)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home () _____ Business () _____

☐ Check enclosed (Make payable to Natural History Foundation)

Charge my ☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard
☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Account # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Recipient's Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home () _____ Business () _____

Please send notice of gift expiration to: ☐ Recipient ☐ Me

Membership Category:

☐ Individual (\$40)	☐ Patron (\$150)	☐ Fellow (\$1000)
☐ Family (\$50)	☐ Naturalist (\$250)	☐ Director's
☐ Contributing (\$100)	☐ Explorer (\$500)	Circle (\$3000)

Gift Announcement Message _____

Please send me information about:

☐ Bequests ☐ Tax-advantaged life income gifts

Please return this form to the Membership Office, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County—which includes five institutions—acquires, conserves, and displays objects relating to natural and human history. The museum is a center for academic inquiry as well as for exhibition, education, publication, and community outreach.

The **Museum of Natural History**, Exposition Park, is located at 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007. The **George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries** is located at 5801 Wilshire Boulevard, Hancock Park, Los Angeles 90036. The **Burbank Museum** is located at 555 North 3rd Street, Burbank 91502, adjacent to the Media City Center mall. The **Petersen Automotive Museum** is located at 6060 Wilshire Boulevard, at Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles 90036.

For recorded information on museum hours, admission fees for the general public, and days when no admission is charged, please call:

■ Exposition Park Museum	213/744-DINO
■ Page Museum	213/936-2230
■ Burbank Museum	818/557-3562
■ Petersen Museum	213/930-CARS

Admission to these museums is always free to members. For information on membership, please call 213/744-3426.

The **William S. Hart Museum** is located at 24151 San Fernando Road, Hart Park, Newhall 91321. Admission is free. For information on museum hours, please call:

■ Hart Museum	805/254-4584
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EXPOSITION PARK DISCOVERY CENTER	213/744-3559

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California 90007

SHOP THE GIFT STORES of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County



MAKE A STATEMENT with Natural History Museum logo gifts

Saber-toothed cat T-shirts – choose either
Natural History Museum or
George C. Page Museum lettering

Adults M, L, XL, XXL, in white, ash, or black 100% cotton \$15
Children S, M, L, in white or ash cotton/polyester \$11

Ceramic
mug
\$8

Saber-toothed cat
baseball cap in
cotton twill
\$19

STORE LOCATIONS

Natural History Museums

Exposition Park
(213) 744-3434

Burbank Media
City Center
(818) 557-3551

George C. Page Museum
of La Brea Discoveries
(213) 857-6300

Petersen Automotive
Museum
(213) 964-6328